

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the Abstract section of the specification as follows:

~~A method of reducing the ethanol content of a beverage which includes ethanol and volatile components:~~

~~—— separating the beverage into first and second streams, the first stream including ethanol and the volatile components and the second stream including ethanol but none or little of the volatile components;~~

~~—— contacting the second stream with a strip solution to produce a treated second stream to reduce the ethanol concentration thereof; and~~

~~—— mixing the treated second stream with the first stream whereby the ethanol content of the beverage is reduced but the volatile components remain substantially unchanged.~~

A method of reducing the ethanol content of a beverage which includes ethanol and volatile component is disclosed. The method may include separating the beverage into first and second streams with the first stream including ethanol and the volatile components and the second stream including ethanol but none or little of the volatile components. The method may also include contacting the second stream with a strip solution to produce a treated second stream to reduce the ethanol concentration. The method may also include mixing the treated second stream with the first stream whereby

the ethanol content of the beverage is reduced but the volatile components remain substantially unchanged.